PATENT APPLICATION

2161 5/26/04 PH #5

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re A	application of:)	•
		:	Examiner: Not yet assigned
KAZUMA SATO et al.			
		:	Group Art Unit: 2161
Application No.: 09/840,892)	
n:1 1	4 125 2001	:	
rilea:	April 25, 2001)	
		:	
For:	APPARATUS AND METHOD)	
	FOR COLLECTING USED	:	
	OFFICE SUPPLIES)	May 13, 2004

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 RECEIVED
MAY 2 0 2004
GROUP 3600

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to the documents listed below and on the attached Form PTO-1449. A copy of each document so listed is enclosed.

U.S. Patent No. 5,408,079

JP 6-96094 JP11-349104

These documents were cited during prosecution of a Japanese patent application corresponding to the above U.S. application. A copy of the Japanese Office Action is enclosed.

English-language abstracts for the Japanese documents cited in the Japanese Office Action are enclosed. A concise explanation of relevance for each of these documents is believed to be provided by the English-language abstracts. In addition, U.S. Patent No. 5,408,079 is believed to be an English-language counterpart of JP 6-096094.

Inasmuch as the subject application has not yet received a first Office Action, it is believed that this Information Disclosure Statement is timely. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3). Accordingly, the Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed invention. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this information has been considered by initialing the appropriate portion of Form PTO-1449.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, CA office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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FORM PTO 1449 (modified) U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE PE LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary)			"ATTY DOCKET NO. 00862.022278.		APPLICATION NO.	09/840,892		
			APPLICANT Kazuma Sato et al.					
			FILING DATE April 25, 2001			GROUP 2161		
	(4	TANT & YHAREMAR	U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
*EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME		CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE	
	5,408,079	4/95	Kobayashi et al.		235	383		
						:		
	<u> </u>							
		FC	REIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS					
	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY		CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT	
	6-96094	4/94	Japan				Abstract	
	11-349104	12/99	Japan				Abstract	
OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)								
	Japanese Office Action in JP 2001-123002							
								
FXAMINER			DATE CONSIDERED					

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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